

Existing law (R.S. 17:8(C)) provides relative to contracts with publishers for the purchase of school books. Provides for awarding of such contracts on a competitive basis. Prior law specified that such contracts would be made without determinate date of expiration and would run without change until properly terminated. Provided that contracts would authorize parties to terminate contracts with 90 days notice.

New law provides instead that BESE shall determine the term of such contracts and authorizes the board instead of either party to terminate contracts with 90 days notice.

Prior law further provided that the procedure for announcing bids, examining books, and awarding contracts shall be under BESE control and in accordance with applicable law.

New law retains prior law except provides that the procedure for announcing school book adoptions instead of bids shall be under BESE control and in accordance with applicable law. Adds authorization for the board to set and collect fees from publishers participating in school book adoption procedures.

Existing law (R.S. 17:8(G)) provides that the state Dept. of Education shall be the state book depository for schools. Authorizes the state superintendent to enter into contracts relative to the location(s) of such depository. Further authorizes the superintendent to require publishers to maintain a depository in the state or to contract with any public or private agency to act as the depository. Prior law provided that such contract be in accordance with the provisions of Part II of Chapter 10 of Title 38 of the LRS (Public Bid Law).

New law retains existing law but changes prior law requirement for letting of contracts for a school book depository in accordance with the Public Bid Law (Part II of Ch. 10 of Title 38 of the LRS) to a requirement for letting such contracts as provided in provisions of the Procurement Code relating to methods of source selection (R.S. 39:1593). (Also see provisions relative to Procurement Code below.)

Existing law (R.S. 17:352) provides relative to screening, review, and approval of textbooks and other materials. Requires BESE or the Dept. of Education to assure that all school books, films, booklets, audio-visual devices, and any other similar materials of instruction are thoroughly screened, reviewed, and approved by BESE and the local school board concerned.

New law retains existing law except removes from list of items to be screened, reviewed, and approved, all films, booklets, audio-visual devices, and any other similar materials of instruction and provides instead that all school books and "materials of instruction submitted for state adoption" shall be screened, reviewed, and approved.

Existing law (R.S. 17:415.1) provides relative to textbook adoption procedures. Requires that all textbooks being considered for adoption be placed by the Dept. of Education in public libraries in certain designated cities and other possible designated cities for review by interested persons. Prior law required such placement from Sept. 1 through Dec. 31 of each year.

New law retains existing law but removes specified time period of Sept. 1 through Dec. 31 and provides instead that the state Dept. of Education shall ensure that all textbooks being considered for state adoption are placed in such libraries prior to state adoption and for a period of at least 60 days.

Existing law (Procurement Code, R.S. 39:1615) provides that unless otherwise provided by law, a contract for supplies or services may be entered into for periods of not more than three years, if funds for the first fiscal year of the contemplated contract are available at the time of contracting. Specifies that payment and performance obligations for succeeding fiscal years shall be subject to the availability and appropriation of funds therefor. Provides that no contract shall be entered into for more than one year unless the length of the contract was clearly stated in the specifications. Provides for conditions for multiyear contracts.

Existing law (R.S. 39:1615(D) (Procurement Code)) authorizes educational institutions to enter into multiyear nonexclusive contracts, not to exceed 10 years, with vendors who have made gifts of equipment utilized for promoting